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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Dr. Norbert ETTNER, et al.
Serial No. : 09/493,887
Filed : January 28, 2000
For : PROTEIN-CONTAINING HYDROGELS
Art Unit : 1652
Examiner : D. Steadman

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MAY 29 2001

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

May 21, 2001

Assistant Commissioner
For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated April 20, 2001 (paper #4),
Applicants elect Group I, Claims 1-13 and 16-20, with traverse.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully
solicited.

The wound dressing and bandages etc. of Claims 14 and 15 comprise the hydrogel
of Claim 1. Thus, any search of the bandages etc. of Claims 14 and 15 would be likely to
turn-up any art that is pertinent to the hydrogels themselves.

#5
Drost
5301

Any search of the hydrogel itself, on the other hand, would be likely to turn-up art pertinent to the use of the hydrogel.

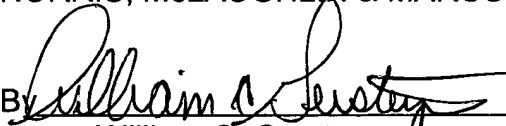
Accordingly, both group could easily be searched in a single search, and the restriction requirement should be withdrawn.

In the event that the Examiner does not find it possible to withdraw the Restriction Requirement, it is respectfully requested that upon the allowance of elected subject matter, the non-elected subject matter be rejoined.

Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

NORRIS, McLAUGHLIN & MARCUS, P.A.

By 
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Services as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: The Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on May 21, 2001.

NORRIS, McLAUGHLIN & MARCUS, P.A.

By 

Date 5/21/01